

ECONOMY AND FAIR WORK COMMITTEE

7th Meeting, 2021 (Session 6), Wednesday 6 October 2021

Evidence Session

Introduction

1. This paper has been produced for the Economy and Fair Work Committee to aid Committee members during the evidence session.
2. The purpose of the session is to allow members to hear from businesses, at different stages of the journey towards the transition to net zero, on what they would like to see from COP26, some of the challenges they face and views on access to financial support to facilitate the transition to net zero.
3. The session will be organised around two panels; one with SME representatives and another with lenders and investors.

Witnesses

4. The Committee will hear from—
 - Jo Chidley, Co-founder, [Beauty Kitchen](#);
 - Michael Cusack, Head of Sustainability & Business Transformation, [ACS Clothing](#);
 - John Ferguson, Managing Director, [Pi Polymer Recycling Ltd](#);
 - Paul O’Keefe, Partner, [Thomas Tosh](#); and
 - Murray Whittaker, Director of Projects, [Whittaker Engineering](#).

And then from—

- Sandy Begbie CBE, Chief Executive Officer, [Scottish Financial Enterprise](#);
- Simon Crichton, Head of Relationship Management, [Triodos Bank UK](#);
- David Ovens, Joint Managing Director, [Archangels](#); and
- Fraser Sime, Regional Director for SME & Mid Corporate, [Bank of Scotland](#).

Aim of evidence session

5. The aim of the session is to get a snapshot of—
 - what SMEs would like to see from COP26; and
 - challenges faced by SMEs transition to net zero and financial support available.

Clerk to the Committee
1 October 2021

